



JON S. CORZINE
Governor

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs
New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners
124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102



ZULIMA V. FARBER
Attorney General

June 16, 2006

KIMBERLY S. RICKETTS
Director

By Certified and Regular Mail

Antonia Christian-Thompson, P.T.
227 Watchung Avenue
Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 45014
Newark, NJ 07101
(973) 504-6455

Re: Offer of Settlement In Lieu of Filing a Formal Disciplinary Complaint

Dear Mrs. Christian-Thompson:

This letter is to advise you that the New Jersey State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (the "Board") has had an opportunity to review information concerning your reinstatement of your license to practice physical therapy in the State of New Jersey that was received on or about April 24, 2006. Specifically, the information reviewed included the reinstatement application that indicated that the last renewal was due January 31, 2006 or within thirty (30) days of that date. You acknowledged that you continued to work as a program manager/ Rehabilitation Director at Enduracare Therapy Management and provided to the Board a copy of the job description for the position of Program Manager. The job description states that as the "Therapy Program Manager" you are responsible for the overall management of the rehabilitation department. Responsibilities include "monitoring admissions and treatment schedules, tracking MDS assessment periods and data and monitoring productivity levels within the department" Also included as essential duties and responsibilities in the job description is that you are to "manage a caseload in accordance with established standards." The job description further indicates as a minimum recommendation for this position that in addition to satisfying certain education requirements the Program Manager should also hold a current state license.

Although you allege in your correspondence that you do not treat patients the job description provided indicated that as program manager you are supervising other licensed therapists who do treat patient and you are responsible for monitoring patients and conducting rehabilitative department meetings which include "patient care review, schedule and coverage issues, and department issues." It is the position of the Board in conjunction with a review of the job description you provided that you are involved in the management of other licensed therapists and need to be aware of treatment protocols and CPT codes for billing of patient care that is within the scope of practice of physical therapy and requires a license as set forth in N.J.S.A. 45: 9-37.13 and 45: 9-37.19.

Upon review of all available information, the Board has preliminarily found that probable cause exists to support a finding that you violated N.J.S.A. 45:1-7.1(b) and (c) in that you failed to renew your license within thirty days of the January 31, 2006 renewal period and you continued to practice with a suspended license for two months from March 1, 2006 through May 19, 2006.

At this juncture, the Board has preliminarily concluded that the above violations are sufficient to warrant the initiation of formal disciplinary proceedings against you. Notwithstanding that decision, however, the Board has determined that it will first offer you an opportunity to settle this matter, and thereby avoid the initiation of disciplinary proceedings, should you consent to:

1. Cease and desist in the future from continuing to practice physical therapy without a valid current license.

2. Pay a penalty in the amount of \$250.00 for continuing to engage in the practice of physical therapy while your license was suspended (to be paid immediately upon your signing of the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter by sending a certified check or money order payable to the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, attention Susan Gartland, P.O. Box 45014, Newark, New Jersey 07101) .

If you are willing to settle this matter on the offered settlement terms, you may do so by signing the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter, and returning it to the Board office. Upon your signature, this letter will be a matter of public record.

In the event you are unwilling to settle this matter on the offered terms, it will be referred to the Attorney General's office for the initiation of appropriate enforcement action. In such event, you will be afforded an opportunity to defend against the alleged violations. If an evidentiary hearing is deemed warranted the Board will either conduct that hearing at a date and time to be scheduled or refer the matter to the Office of Administrative Law. You are advised, however, that in the event formal charges are filed, the Board may assess civil penalties in an amount greater than that herein offered in settlement should any charges against you be sustained. Additionally, the Board may, if the facts are found to so warrant, enter an order, requiring you to reimburse certain monies and/or requiring you to pay costs incurred by the Board. Should you have any questions concerning this letter or the settlement offer herein, I suggest that you contact Deputy Attorney General ,Carmen A. Rodriguez who may be reached at (973) 648-3696.

If you elect to settle this matter presently, you should sign the acknowledgment at the bottom of this letter and return it to the Board within fifteen (15) days following your receipt of this letter. In the event that the Board receives no response from you within fifteen (15) days, the Board's settlement offer will be withdrawn, and the matter will be referred to the Attorney General's Office for the initiation of appropriate enforcement proceedings.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF
PHYSICAL THERAPY EXAMINERS

By: 
Susan Gartland
Executive Director

JUN 28 2006

ACKNOWLEDGMENT: I, Antonia Christian-Thompson, P.T., hereby acknowledge that I have read and reviewed the settlement proposal set forth in the above letter. I acknowledge the conduct which has been charged. I am aware that, by signing this acknowledgment, I am waiving any rights I may have to defend myself against any charges of wrongdoing at an administrative hearing. I am also aware that the action taken against me by the Board herein is a matter of public record, and that this letter is a public document. I hereby agree to pay a penalty in the amount of \$250.00 (to be paid upon signing of this acknowledgment).

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Antonia Christian-Thompson".

Antonia Christian-Thompson, P.T.

Dated: 6/20/06

cc: Carmen A. Rodriguez, Deputy Attorney General